

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-4. (Canceled).

5. (Currently amended) A surgical clip comprising:

a pair of laterally curved legs each leg having an inner surface and an outer surface, and each leg having a shape that is generally a mirror image of the shape of the other leg;

a flexible articulation joining the pair of legs at one end, the legs being movable about the flexible articulation from an open position to a closed position, the inner surfaces of the legs being parallel and in contact with one another when the clip is in the closed position; and

a locking mechanism at a second end of the pair of legs for securing the legs together in [[a]] the closed position,

the clip being adapted to be applied to an anatomical structure such that when in the closed position the clip either partially or fully occludes the structure depending upon the angle at which the clip is applied to the structure.

6. (Previously presented) The surgical clip of claim 5 wherein the locking mechanism comprises a pin located at the free end of one leg and an orifice located at the free end of the other leg, the pin being adapted to snap fit under pressure into the orifice.

7. (Previously presented) The surgical clip of claim 5 wherein each leg includes a plurality of teeth on its inner surface.

8. (Currently amended) The surgical clip of claim 7 wherein the teeth are generally transversely oriented on each leg.

9. (Previously presented) The surgical clip of claim 7 wherein the teeth are longitudinally oriented on each leg.

10. (Previously presented) The surgical clip of claim 5 wherein the clip is formed of metal.

11. (Previously presentedly) The surgical clip of claim 5 wherein the clip is formed of polymer material.

12. (Previously presented) The surgical clip of claim 5 wherein the flexible articulation is integral with the legs.

13. (Currently amended) A surgical clip comprising:
a pair of laterally arcuate legs, each leg having an inner surface and an outer surface, and each leg having a shape that is generally a mirror image of the shape of the other leg;

a flexible articulation joining the pair of legs at one end, the legs being movable about the flexible articulation from an open position to a closed position, the inner surfaces of the legs being parallel and in contact with one another when the clip is in the closed position; and

a locking mechanism at a second end of the pair of legs for securing the legs together in [[a]] the closed position;

wherein one leg includes a longitudinal ridge on its inner surface and the other leg includes a longitudinal recess on its inner surface, the ridge being adapted to fit within the recess when the clip is in the closed position,

the clip being adapted to be applied to an anatomical structure such that when in the closed position the clip either partially or fully occludes the structure depending upon the angle at which the clip is applied to the structure.

14. (Previously presented) The surgical clip of claim 13 wherein the locking mechanism comprises a pin located at a central portion of the free end of one leg and an orifice located on a central portion of the free end of the other leg, the pin being adapted to snap fit under pressure into the orifice.

15. (Previously presented) The surgical clip of claim 13 wherein the flexible articulation is integral with the legs.

16. (Currently amended) A surgical clip for occluding a blood vessel, comprising:

a pair of laterally curved legs, each leg having an inner surface and an outer surface, the inner surfaces of the legs being parallel and in contact with one another when the clip is in a closed position, one leg having at least one protrusion on its inner surface and the other leg having at least one recess on its inner surface, the protrusion and recess being adapted to fit together when the clip is in a closed position;

a flexible articulation joining the pair of legs at one end; and

a locking mechanism at a free end of the pair of legs for holding the legs together in a closed position,

the clip being adapted to be applied to the vessel such that when in the closed position the clip either partially or fully occludes the vessel depending upon the angle at which the clip is applied to the vessel.

17. (Previously presented) The surgical clip of claim 16 wherein the locking mechanism comprises a pin located at a central portion of the free end of one leg and an orifice located on a central portion of the free end of the other leg, the pin being adapted to snap fit under pressure into the orifice.

18. (Previously presented) The surgical clip of claim 16 wherein the flexible articulation is integral with the legs.

19. (Previously presented) A metal surgical clip comprising:

a pair of laterally curved legs, each leg having an inner surface and an outer surface; and

a flexible articulation joining the pair of legs at one end;

wherein the clip has an open position and a closed position, the clip being lockable in the closed position by deformation of the clip from the open position by applying sufficient force to press the inner surfaces of the legs together.

20. (Previously presented) The surgical clip of claim 19 wherein each leg includes a plurality of teeth on its inner surface.

21. (Previously presented) The surgical clip of claim 20 wherein the teeth are transversely oriented on the inner surface of each leg.

22. (Previously presented) The surgical clip of claim 20 wherein the teeth are longitudinally oriented on the inner surface of each leg.

23. (Previously presented) The surgical clip of claim 19 wherein the flexible articulation is integral with the legs.

24. (Previously presented) The surgical clip of claim 19 wherein one leg includes a longitudinal ridge on its inner surface and the other leg includes a longitudinal recess on its inner surface, the ridge being adapted to fit within the recess when the clip is in the closed position.